

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice, amend claims 24, 26 and 28-31 and add new claims 32-46 as indicated in the following list of pending claims.

PENDING CLAIMS

1-23 (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) An expandable tubular stent body having a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections, comprising:

- a) a first cylindrical wall section at a first end of the tubular body which has a first margin and a second margin and a circumferentially undulated structure with undulation extremities at the first and second margins of the first cylindrical wall section;
- b) a second cylindrical wall section at a second end of the tubular body;
- c) an intermediate cylindrical wall section which is disposed adjacent to the first cylindrical wall section, which has a first margin and a second margin with the first margin adjacent to the second margin of the first cylindrical wall section and a circumferentially undulated structure with undulation extremities at the first and second margins of the intermediate cylindrical wall section; [[and]]
- d) at least one ~~connecting bar~~ interconnecting member extending between an undulation extremity at the first margin of the first cylindrical wall section and an undulation extremity at a margin of the adjacent intermediate cylindrical wall section; and
- e) a cover connector configured to secure a cover to an exterior portion of the tubular stent body.

25. (Previously Presented) The expandable tubular stent body of claim 24 wherein the undulated structure of the first cylindrical wall section and the undulated structure of the adjacent intermediate cylindrical wall section are in phase.

26. (Currently Amended) The expandable tubular stent body of claim 25 wherein the ~~connecting-bar~~ interconnecting member extends between an undulation extremity at the first margin of the first cylindrical wall section and an undulation extremity at the first margin of the adjacent intermediate cylindrical wall section

27. (Previously Presented) The expandable tubular stent body of claim 24 wherein the undulated structure of the first cylindrical wall section and the undulated structure of the adjacent intermediate cylindrical wall section are out of phase.

28. (Currently Amended) The expandable tubular stent body of claim 27 wherein the ~~connecting-bar~~ interconnecting member extends between an undulation extremity at the first margin of the first cylindrical wall section and an undulation extremity at the second margin of the adjacent intermediate cylindrical wall section.

29. (Currently Amended) The expandable tubular stent body of claim 24 wherein at least one ~~connecting-bar~~ interconnecting member ~~[[is]]~~ has a cover connector ~~configured to secure a jacket thereto.~~

30. (Currently Amended) The expandable tubular stent body of claim 29 wherein the ~~connecting-bar member~~ cover connector has a penetrating element to secure a jacket thereto.

31. (Currently Amended) The expandable tubular stent body of claim 29 wherein the ~~connecting-bar member~~ cover connector has a eyelet to facilitate securing a ~~jacket~~ stent cover thereto by a suitable strand.

32. (New) The expandable tubular stent body of claim 24 wherein at least one of the interconnecting members is an elongated bar.

33. (New) An intravascular stent, comprising:

- a) an expandable tubular stent body which has a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections including a first cylindrical wall section, a second cylindrical wall section, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall section between the first and second cylindrical wall sections, and at least one interconnecting member extending between the first cylindrical wall section and a longitudinally adjacent intermediate cylindrical wall section; and
- b) a stent cover connector which is configured to secure a stent cover to the tubular stent body.

34. (New) The intravascular stent of claim 33 wherein the cover connector has a cover penetrating element to secure the stent cover.

35. (New) The intravascular stent of claim 33 wherein the cover connector has a pair of cover penetrating elements to secure the stent cover.

36. (New) The intravascular stent of claim 33 wherein the penetrating elements of the cover connector are configured to penetrate through a stent cover and be folded over an exterior portion of the stent cover to secure the stent cover to the stent body.

37. (New) The intravascular stent of claim 33 wherein the interconnecting member has the stent cover connector.

38. (New) The intravascular stent of claim 37 wherein the stent cover connector of the interconnecting member has a penetrating element to secure the stent cover.

39. (New) The intravascular stent of claim 33 wherein the cover connector of the interconnecting member has at least one eyelet to facilitate securing a stent cover thereto by a suitable strand.

40. (New) The stent assembly of claim 33 wherein the first cylindrical wall section has a circumferentially undulated structure.

41. (New) The stent assembly of claim 40 wherein the circumferentially undulated structure of the first cylindrical wall section has a first circumferential margin and a second circumferential margin with undulation extremities at the first and second margins.

42. (New) The stent assembly of claim 41 wherein the intermediate cylindrical wall section adjacent to the first cylindrical wall section has a circumferentially undulated structure.

43. (New) The stent assembly of claim 42 wherein the undulated structure of the first cylindrical wall section and the undulated structure of the adjacent intermediate cylindrical wall section are in phase.

44. (New) The stent assembly of claim 42 wherein the undulated structure of the first cylindrical wall section and the undulated structure of the adjacent intermediate cylindrical wall section are out of phase.

45. (New) The stent assembly of claim 43 wherein the interconnecting member extends between an undulation extremity at the first margin of the first

cylindrical wall section and an undulation extremity at the first margin of the adjacent intermediate cylindrical wall section

46. (New) The stent assembly of claim 33 wherein at least one of the interconnecting members is an elongated bar.